

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 15568 211554Z
ACTION SS-25

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P R 211538Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1600
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USMISSION NATO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T BONN 15568

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

LONDON ALSO FOR ACDA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR NEWHOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR: STATUS OF THE FRG PROPOSAL IN BONN

1. ALTHOUGH BOTH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER HAVE OCCASIONALLY SUGGESTED THAT THEY WISHED
TO MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY ON MBFR, AND SCHMIDT HAS VAGUELY
SUGGESTED THAT THE SUBJECT SHOULD BE TAKEN TO THE
"POLITICAL LEVEL," THEIR TOP AIDES TELL US THAT BOTH
THE CHANCELLOR AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER ARE NOW CONCEN-
TRATING ON THE FRG PROPOSAL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT
BY SCHMIDT DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT.

2. GENSCHEER'S AIDE KINKEL HAS TOLD US THAT GENSCHEER
WOULD LIKE AT SOME POINT TO DEVELOP FURTHER WESTERN
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STRATEGY THAT COULD MOVE THE NEGOTIATIONS FORWARD, AND
THAT SUCH STRATEGY DISCUSSIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE EVEN IF
THE DATA ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED IN VIENNA. HOWEVER,
KINKEL SAID THAT FOR THE TIME BEING GENSCHEER WISHED
FIRST OF ALL TO DEVELOP AN AGREED NATO POSITION ON THE
CURRENT FRG PROPOSAL.

3. RUHFUS OF THE CHANCELLERY SAID THAT THE CHANCELLOR WAS STILL INTERESTED IN FINDING A WAY TO MAKE A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN MBFR. HOWEVER, HE SAID THERE WAS NO CERTAINTY IN BONN THAT SUCH A BREAKTHROUGH COULD BE ACHIEVED IN THE PRESENT EAST-WEST CLIMATE. HE ADDED THAT THE CHANCELLOR, LIKE GENSCHER, ALSO WISHES TO SEE NATO DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT ON THE FRG PROPOSAL BEFORE OTHER AVENUES ARE CONSIDERED.

4. KINKEL ALSO OBSERVED THAT ANY AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF PARITY AND COLLECTIVITY. WE DID NOT QUESTION RUHFUS ON THIS POINT, BUT HAVE TO DATE SEEN NO EVIDENCE THAT THE CHANCELLOR IS PREPARED TO ABANDON THOSE PRINCIPLES.
STOESSEL

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